

Serial No. 09/745,226

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 33-48, 50-56, 58-63 and 66-70 are presently pending. Claims 33, 50 and 52-54 are currently amended, and claims 64 and 65 are currently cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

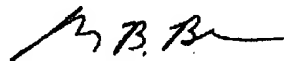
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims of the present invention are in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (703) 433-0510 to resolve any outstanding issues.

FEES

The Office is authorized any required fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



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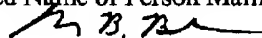
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Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

I hereby certify that this document and any document referenced herein is being sent to the United States Patent and Trademark office via Facsimile to: 571-273-0657 on April 1, 2004.

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(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)



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